

CLASSIFICATION
SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD		DATE 11 February 1966
SUBJECT Joseph G. DENEKE Case (Mr. Harry LENNON contact Hans J. RECHENBERG)		FILE NUMBER
<p>1. On the basis of an oral inquiry from [redacted] O/SAS/SY this date I authorized him to make available to AID/W the information about RECHENBERG we provided SY on 30 December.</p>		
<p>2. The reason for this is that SY has to refer the matter of continuing contact between Mr. LENNON and RECH:</p>		
<p>3. [redacted] offered to refer AID to CIA so they could send written request but to save time and because the RSO, PSO (Beauchamp) and others involved and because there is nothing in the material we would not give AID, made oral authorization above. [redacted] assured me he would provide AID only the info required to evaluate the situation on a need to know basis.</p>		
Distribution: CI/Ops/AF ✓EE/G/CE AF/1		
OFFICE AND TITLE CI/SIG		SIGNATURE [redacted]

FORM
7-62 1954

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

GROUP 1
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC
DOWNGRADING AND
DECLASSIFICATION

(40)

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

One Gerhard BACKES born 1913 was included in list of German officials to
be expelled from Switzerland in May 1945; he was a member of the German
Legation in Berne. A letter to A. W. Dulles, Special Assistant to the
Minister, American Legation, from an American vice consul referred to
Gert BACKES, who claimed to have been taken on at the German Consulate
unofficially in 1940 and was appealing the Swiss deportation order;
according to this letter he had been reported to be a convinced Party
member (i.e. Nazi Party). He was in contact with one KAZNATCHEFF, BORN IN
Smolensk, Russia in 1906, stateless, doctor of economic and social
sciences, living in Geneva as of early 1945. He consorted with both rightist
and leftist elements, and the Swiss police were allegedly convinced that he
was engaged in espionage and was a double agent. Subject is referred to as
Gherard Guert BACKES, clerk at the German Consulate, in the principal
source document on KAZNATCHEFF, an archives document dated 1 Feb 45.

AF/1/11 Note -

This represents all
that I have been
able to pull out of
RI + Archives on
Rechenbergs contact
with BACKES